

ONE-YEAR SUSPENSION. In the Matter of Leonard B. Edelstein, No. 262, 2014.
Effective Date: June 18, 2014.

Leonard B. Edelstein, Esquire (“Edelstein”) was ordered suspended from any practice of law in Delaware for one-year and prohibited from acting *pro hac vice* on any matter for three years by the Delaware Supreme Court on June 18, 2014. The Court adopted the Board on Professional Responsibility’s findings that found Mr. Edelstein, who has never been licensed to practice in Delaware, had established a systematic and continuous presence in Delaware and held out to the public that he was admitted to practice law in Delaware by representing more than eighty-one Delaware residents with respect to injuries arising out of motor vehicle accidents which occurred in Delaware.

Rule 5.5(b)(1) states, “[a] lawyer who is not admitted to practice in this jurisdiction shall not: (1) except as authorized by these Rules or other law, establish an office or other systematic and continuous presence in this jurisdiction for the practice of law.” The Court determined by representing more than eighty-one Delaware residents in claims arising out of accidents that occurred in Delaware involving an insurance policy issued to a vehicle registered in Delaware, Edelstein had established a systematic and continuous legal presence in Delaware, in violation of **Rule 5.5(b)(1)**.

Rule 5.5(b)(2) states, “[a] lawyer who is not admitted to practice in this jurisdiction shall not: . . . (2) hold out to the public or otherwise represent that the lawyer is admitted to practice law in this jurisdiction.” The Court ruled by meeting Delaware clients in a doctor’s office in Wilmington to discuss his representation Edelstein violated **Rule 5.5(b)(2)**.